

KNOW YOUR CITY



MESSAGE

EDWIN W. FISKE, Mayor

MOUNT VERNON, N. Y.

September 30, 1915



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MESSAGE

EDWIN W. FISKE, Mayor

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September 30, 1915



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DO YOU KNOW YOUR CITY?

DO YOU know what is being done to advance the moral, civic, social, industrial, commercial and physical welfare of Mount Vernon?

Do you know what your public officials are doing to administer the municipal affairs honestly, intelligently and efficiently? Do you appreciate their difficulties and the many obstacles to be overcome? Do you understand our present municipal needs? Are your city improvements planned with any definite end in view, or are they carried on in haphazard fashion? Don't you think, honestly, away down in your heart, that you ought to have such knowledge in order to be fair in judging your public officials and the progress that is being made?

Do you know what the city is doing for the protection of your health and property and to increase your comfort?

Do you know what is being done to reduce the death rate in Mount Vernon? What about infant mortality? Are we prepared to fight an epidemic? Are we protected against plague?

Are there proper and sufficient public facilities for play?

How do our educational facilities compare with those of other cities?

Are our housing conditions all that they should be? What is being done to assure progressive improvement?

What is being done to make the city more beautiful and more attractive to the home seeker?

Do you know what products are manufactured here? What do they represent in terms of capital, brains and labor? What industrial advantages have we, and how can they be increased?

What are the opportunities for the commercial expansion of the city? Are the local merchants meeting the needs of the public? What about transportation facilities?

How do the taxes compare with those of the other cities in Westchester County on a per capita basis? What about the cost of running the city government?

Mount Vernon, N. Y., Sept. 30, 1915.

To the Honorable the Common Council,
City of Mount Vernon, N. Y.

Gentlemen:—

Knowing that you are all greatly interested in the growth and development of our city, it gives me great pleasure to submit herewith this message, which I consider contains much valuable information regarding the City of Mount Vernon.

The three cities of Mount Vernon, Yonkers and New Rochelle form the most delightful and most accessible of all the suburbs of the City of New York. They stand in a class by themselves, and outdistance all competitors by their superior advantages.

How do these cities compare with each other?

Which one has the greatest advantages?

POPULATION AND AREA.

The City of Mount Vernon was created by an act of the Legislature of the State of New York on the 22nd day of March, 1892. It is almost a square, being about two miles wide between the Hutchinson River on the east, and the Bronx River on the west, and about two miles long between New York City on the south and the Village of Bronxville on the north. Its actual area is 4.21 square miles. It has a population of 37,623 or 8,936 per square mile. These figures compare with those of the cities of Yonkers and New Rochelle as follows:

	Area in Square Miles	Population	Population Per Square Mile
Mount Vernon	4.21	37,623	8,936
Yonkers	17.98	90,502	5,032
New Rochelle	10.57	31,754	3,004

Thus Mount Vernon has almost three times as many inhabitants per square mile as New Rochelle, and more than one and three-fourths times as many per square mile as Yonkers.

The population of Mount Vernon, 37,623 is greater than that of any city in the nine states of Vermont, Mississippi, Nevada, New Mexico, Arizona, North Dakota, South Dakota, Idaho and Wyoming.

There is only one city in each of the following named eleven states which has a population greater than that of Mount Vernon, to wit: Maine, New Hampshire, Maryland, Louisiana, North

Carolina, Delaware, Arkansas, Utah, Oregon, Oklahoma and Montana.

There are only two cities in each of the following named six states which have a population greater than that of Mount Vernon, to wit: West Virginia, Kentucky, Nebraska, Colorado, Florida and South Carolina.

There are only three cities in each of the following named five states, which have a population greater than that of Mount Vernon, to wit: Minnesota, Rhode Island, Alabama, Washington and Kansas.

There are only four cities in each of the following named six states in which the population is greater than that of Mount Vernon, to wit: Iowa, Georgia, Missouri, Tennessee, Virginia and Wisconsin.

Connecticut and Indiana each has only five such cities, Illinois and Michigan, seven each, California and Ohio nine each, Texas eight, New Jersey 12, New York 11, Pennsylvania 15 and Massachusetts 17.

Forty-three of these cities have less than 50,000 inhabitants, and at the rate Mount Vernon is growing, it will, in a very few years, pass most of them.

Mount Vernon now ranks in population, as the one hundred and seventy-fifth city in the United States.

In population per square mile, it stands the thirty-third.

The thirty-two cities which exceed Mount Vernon in population per square mile are given in a table annexed hereto.

We are so apt to regard Mount Vernon simply as a suburb of New York City, that we fail to realize how high it stands, in comparison with the other cities of the United States, in population and everything else.

HEALTH OF THE CITY.

One of the most important matters, perhaps the most important, in the selection of a home, is the healthfulness of the locality.

In that respect the City of Mount Vernon excels every city and county in the State of New York.

The population of the whole state, according to the last census is 9,773,817, and according to the records of the State Board of Health, the whole number of deaths in the state, in 1914, was 144,427, making the death rate per 1,000 of inhabitants, 14.78.

Where Mount Vernon stands:

DEATH RATES IN 1914.

Per 1,000 Inhabitants.

	Population	Number of Deaths	Deaths Per 1,000 Inhabitants
Mount Vernon.....	37,623	392	10.42
New Rochelle.....	31,754	362	11.40
Yonkers	90,502	1,094	12.09
Portchester	15,095	194	12.82
Ossining	12,987	187	14.42
White Plains.....	17,523	259	14.73
Peekskill	17,327	255	14.75

The death rates in the other cities of our state run from 11.8 per 1,000 in Tonawanda to 26.1, in Ogdensburg, as shown in the table annexed hereto.

The death rate of the whole state is 41.8 per cent. greater than it is in Mount Vernon; in New York City it is 41.6 per cent. greater; in Yonkers, it is 16.6 per cent; and in New Rochelle, it is 15.7 per cent.

A comparison with the boroughs of New York City is as follows:

	Population	Deaths in 1914	Deaths Per 1,000 of Population
Manhattan	2,103,266	36,033	17.1
Brooklyn	1,803,191	25,009	13.8
Bronx	612,493	7,221	11.6
Queens	395,651	5,000	12.6
Richmond	91,943	1,540	16.7
	<hr/> 5,006,544	<hr/> 74,803	<hr/> 14.76

Thus in the Borough of Manhattan, the Death Rate is 64 per cent. greater than it is in Mount Vernon.

In the Borough of Brooklyn it is 32 per cent. greater.

In the Borough of Queens it is 21 per cent. greater.

In the Borough of Richmond it is 60 per cent. greater.

In the Borough of Bronx it is 11 per cent. greater.

This is a remarkable showing.

The most recent mortality statistics issued by the Census Bureau of the United States are for the year 1913. According to these statistics, there are only six cities in the United States with a population of over 35,000 each, in which the death rate is less than that of Mount Vernon.

These six cities are the following:

	Death Rate Per 1,000
Seattle, Washington	8.37
Spokane, Washington.....	8.88
Flint, Michigan.....	9.31
Berkeley, California.....	9.43
Portland, Oregon.....	9.52
Tacoma, Washington.....	10.03
Mount Vernon, New York.....	10.42

Five of these cities are on the Pacific Coast and one is in Michigan. All the rest of the cities of the United States having a population of more than 35,000 each have death rates greater than that of Mount Vernon.

THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH.

As President of the Board of Health, I have had abundant opportunity to study plans of life and health saving, here and elsewhere, and I believe we have today one of the best Health Departments of any city of the size of Mount Vernon, in this or any other state.

Under the able direction of Dr. Charles M. Quinn we have made appreciable progress, as the following items of information show:

Our death rate in 1913 was 13.4; in 1914 it was 10.42.

Our birth rate in 1913 was 24.8; in 1914 it was 25.7.

The deaths of children under one year of age in 1913 amounted to 84; in 1914 to 74.

The Infant Welfare Station, in charge of Dr. Walter H. McNeill, Jr., showed an attendance for the summer of 1915 of 112 babies as against a total on the roll last year of 35. The number of visits, treatments and instructions given this year has been 569, as against 199 last year.

Our two Sanitary Inspectors made 8,111 inspections in 1914.

Our Nurse made 1728 visits in 1914.

During the summer months an analysis of our water supply is made every ten days; during the winter it is made once a month. The milk supply is subjected to regular analyses.

The cost of the Health Department for 1914 to 1915 was \$12,345. For 1915 to 1916 savings have been effected by organization, which bring the cost down to \$11,725.

CHARITY DEPARTMENT.

Our Charity Department, in 1914, issued relief orders to the number of 3,374 and ordered 194 physician's prescriptions filled. We sent 38 poor to the County House and 14 children to various institutions. The total number of burials was 24.

The cost of the Charity Department for the last fiscal year amounted to \$36,550.73. Of this we paid \$7,794.71 for groceries and coal supplied to the needy of Mount Vernon. We contributed \$14, 088.53 for the care of the poor at the County House. We gave \$1,000 to the Martha Wilson Home and \$8,000 to the Mount Vernon Hospital.

POLICE DEPARTMENT.

The preservation of order and the enforcement of our laws and ordinances is taken care of by our Police Department. The administrative head is the Police Commissioner, appointed by the Mayor, who receives a salary of \$1,000 per annum, out of which he pays a secretary \$500. Commissioner Connor has won for himself an enviable reputation for unquestioned fairness and square dealing.

The Police Department consists of 51 men and officers, under the command of Chief Foley, who has served the city with loyalty and efficiency for many years. When a patrolman is appointed, after a competitive examination, he is placed on probation for three months and receives \$65 per month. After this probationary period, his salary for the first year is \$78.33 per month; for the second year, \$88.33 per month; for the third year, \$98.33 per month; after that he is paid the maximum of \$108.33. The total salary appropriation for the year amounts to \$71,280. Two per cent. is collected from every man's pay for the Pension Fund.

The Pension Fund amounts to about Fifty-four thousand dollars. Three pensions, totaling \$1,740, are being paid from it at present. The income from Excise monies, the two per cent. collected from the patrolmen, gifts, etc., add to the Fund over and above the three pensions paid each year, about \$5,000 per annum.

In comparing the amount of police protection supplied in Mount Vernon, Yonkers and New Rochelle, it should be borne in mind that the Police Departments of these three cities compare favorably with the best in the State:

	Mount Vernon	New Rochelle	Yonkers
Number per thousand of population.....	1.43	1.16	2.24
Number of policemen and other employees.	51	37	205

Four of the policemen in Mount Vernon are motorcyclists and five are bicyclists. The former are employed largely in regulating the speed of automobiles; the latter have taken the place of the mounted police and have proved less expensive and more efficient.

Our Police Department is justly proud of its new Police Headquarters. It is one of the most complete, up-to-date, beautiful structures for such a purpose in the United States.

THE FIRE DEPARTMENT.

I cannot speak too highly of our Fire Department. Like our Health Department and our Public Library, it excels in its usefulness everything of its kind in the State.

The National Board of Fire Underwriters, in its official report issued on May 27, 1915, shows the fire loss per capita of population for the year 1914, in every city of the State of New York having more than 20,000 inhabitants. Mount Vernon heads the list as having had the smallest per capita loss of any of these cities. Its fire loss per capita of population in 1914 compares with those in the other cities of the State of New York as follows:

	Fire Loss Per Capita
1. Mount Vernon.....	\$.59
2. Yonkers	1.49
3. New Rochelle.....	1.75
4. New York.....	1.44
Manhattan and Bronx Borough.....	1.61
Brooklyn and Queens.....	1.21
5. Gloversville	12.29
6. Binghamton	6.24
7. Albany	5.46
8. Glens Falls.....	4.56
9. Oswego	4.31
10. Elmira	3.75
11. Troy	3.65
12. Buffalo	2.54
13. Kingston	2.50
14. Jamestown	2.49
15. Amsterdam	2.19
16. Rome	2.16
17. Watertown	2.13
18. Auburn	2.05
19. Syracuse	1.85
20. Cohoes	1.59
21. Schenectady	1.50
22. Utica	1.47
23. Poughkeepsie	1.38
24. Rochester	1.23
25. Newburgh61

A low rate or a high rate, for a given year, may have been due to exceptional circumstances; but Mount Vernon has had, for many years, very nearly the lowest rate.

This is shown by the following table:

	Loss Per Capita	Standing in State
Ten years 1900 to 1909 inclusive.....	1.37	4
191080	4
191183	3
191296	4
1913	1.29	4
191459	1

Thus, in fifteen years, Mount Vernon was first in 1914, second in 1908, third in 1911, fourth in 1910, 1912 and 1913, and on the average, from 1900 to 1909 inclusive.

The figures for 1914 were made before the census of 1915 was taken. Based on the latter, the comparison between Mount Vernon, New Rochelle and Yonkers is as follows:

Year 1914.

	Population	Total Loss	Loss Per Capita
Mount Vernon	37,623	\$22,052	\$.58
New Rochelle	31,754	61,268	1.74
Yonkers	90,502	138,916	1.53

The value of the property involved in the fires in Mount Vernon was \$1,630,144. Hence loss was nearly 1 1-3 cents out of every dollar.

Mount Vernon, New Rochelle, Yonkers.

	Loss Per Capita	Standing	Loss Per Capita	Standing	Loss Per Capita
1900 to 1910 inc...4	\$1.37	6	\$1.58	5	\$1.44
19113	.83	6	1.09	14	1.73
19124	.96	11	1.47	22	3.38
19134	1.29	24	8.69	14	2.49
19141	.58	6	1.74	8	1.53

During the past five years, 1910 to 1914 inclusive, the total losses by fire in Mount Vernon, New Rochelle and Yonkers have been as follows:

1910 to 1914 Inclusive, Total Losses by Fire.

Mount Vernon	\$153,672
New Rochelle	447,498
Yonkers	912,955

The people should bear in mind that the cost of a city government should not be measured by the taxes only, but by the losses

of property by fire and burglaries, and the losses of life by violence and disease.

Our losses by fire have averaged less than \$31,000 a year for the past five years, while those of New Rochelle have averaged about \$90,000, and those of Yonkers about \$182,000.

No other city in the State of New York can equal the record of Mount Vernon in this respect. Of such a magnificent showing the citizens of Mount Vernon have good reasons to be very proud.

To Fire Commissioner Clarence L. Howland and the Chief Engineers and the officers and firemen under them, I extend my congratulations, and express the high regard in which the Fire Department of the City of Mount Vernon is held by the people it so faithfully serves.

To this special commendation I must add a word of appreciation for the citizens of Mount Vernon themselves to whom no small share of credit is due, because of the intelligent manner in which they care for their homes and places of business.

The Pension Fund for the paid firemen of the Mount Vernon Fire Department was started October 1, 1914, and amounts at the present time to the sum of \$2,046.60. Two per cent. is collected from every paid man's pay for the Pension Fund.

As regards cost of maintenance, the Fire Departments of Mount Vernon, New Rochelle and Yonkers compare as follows:

	Total Cost	Cost Per Capita
Mount Vernon	\$ 44,000	\$1.17
New Rochelle	37,433	1.18
Yonkers	184,458	2.01

The Fire Department of Mount Vernon is made up as follows:
One Chief, two Deputies and one Superintendent of the

Alarm System.....	4
Paid Firemen, who act as Engineers, Chauffeurs, Drivers, Tillermen, Linemen, Chemical Attendants, Trans- mitters and Inspectors for Theatres and Special Hazards..	25
Volunteer Firemen	400
	<hr/>
	429
Single Fire Houses.....	5
Double Fire Houses.....	2
Chief's Automobile	1
Engines, Trucks and Tenders (of these six are autos).....	15
Horses	15

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS.

1. Streets, Avenues and Roads.

This Department also makes a splendid showing. Commissioner George J. Harlow, appointed by the Mayor, is giving the city honest service, and the people are getting full value for the money paid out for improvements.

Mount Vernon has 88 miles of streets, avenues and roads, all but twenty miles of which are paved and kept in an excellent state of repair.

Eight Thousand Dollars a year is spent for oiling our streets, and constant and careful inspection is made to prevent deterioration by prompt repair.

With 160 miles of cement or flag sidewalks, with almost as many miles of curb and gutter, and with thousands of beautiful shade trees, the highways of Mount Vernon are among the finest in the State.

How the streets of Mount Vernon compare with those of New Rochelle and Yonkers is shown in the following table:

	Mount Vernon	New Rochelle	Yonkers
Total Area of City in Square Miles....	4.21	10.57	17.98
Total Miles of Roads.....	88.0	95.00	147.00
Miles of Roads per Square Mile of Areas	20.0	8.99	8.12
Miles of Sewers.....	71.0	60.00	58.00

Thus per square mile of area, Mount Vernon has $2\frac{1}{4}$ times as many public highways as New Rochelle, and $2\frac{1}{2}$ times as many as Yonkers.

2. Sewerage System

In sewers also Mount Vernon is far ahead of New Rochelle and Yonkers both in the total number of miles and per square mile of area. Mount Vernon has 16.1 miles of sewers, New Rochelle 6.58 miles and Yonkers 3.23 miles, per square mile of area.

Mount Vernon has 5 miles of sewers for every one in Yonkers per square mile of area, and almost 3 miles of sewers for every one in New Rochelle.

The Sewage Disposal Plant in Mount Vernon is one of the very best in the country.

3. Lighting System.

In street lighting, Mount Vernon, New Rochelle and Yonkers compare as follows:

	Mount Vernon	New Rochelle	Yonkers
Gas Lights	1,200	1,000	3,600
Electric Lights	900	960	1,332
Total.....	2,100	1,960	4,932
Per Square Mile of Area.....	477	186	274
Per Mile of Road.....	24	20	30

Based on the number of square miles of area, Mount Vernon has over 2½ times as many street lights as New Rochelle and 1¾ times as many as Yonkers.

During the past year Mount Vernon, New Rochelle and Yonkers have established a splendid system of electric lights, known as the White Ways, on some of their principal business streets and avenues. The result is highly satisfactory. Of these lights Mount Vernon has 708, New Rochelle 212 and Yonkers 960.

SHADE TREE COMMISSION.

The first steps toward municipal control of the shade trees of Mount Vernon were taken by the Westchester Woman's Club and resulted in the appointment by the Mayor of a committee to investigate shade tree conditions in Mount Vernon and other cities and suggest the line of action to be followed. After detailed consideration of the matter, this committee made two recommendations, namely, that a permanent shade tree commission be established, and that a city forester be appointed.

Pursuant to these recommendations, on April 6, 1915, an ordinance was passed by the Common Council, providing for the appointment of a shade tree commission and for the protection and control of trees and shrubs on all public highways and parks. Mr. Charles W. Sinnott, Mrs. Elizabeth B. Willcox and Mr. John R. Rockart were then appointed by the Mayor to serve on this Commission. The Commission took immediate steps, in accordance with the above ordinance, to hold an examination and appoint a city forester, and by the middle of July of the current year the city forester had been sworn in and active work was commenced.

Mount Vernon is particularly fortunate in having such a great number of beautiful shade trees. With proper care, their length of life will be materially increased. In order to offset the number of trees which die annually it will be necessary to set out several hundred young trees each year, and this planting, which has heretofore received but little attention, will now be done in a systematic

manner, and only those species which are particularly well adapted to our local conditions will be used, thus insuring a maximum length of life at a minimum cost to the city.

The greatest need which requires attention all over the city is trimming the trees for head-room, both over the sidewalk and the roadways. Dead wood in the trees will be cleaned out as fast as conditions permit. Next spring active work will be commenced fighting the insects which, very fortunately, have been somewhat held in check this season by weather conditions unfavorable to their development.

The shade trees are a most valuable asset of the city and too much importance cannot be laid on proper foresight in the selecting and planting of young trees as well as the care and treatment of the old ones.

PARKS AND PARKWAYS.

Mount Vernon has within its borders about 60 acres in parks, playgrounds and parkways, and in the immediate vicinity there are over 3,000 acres of parklands.

It has 44 acres in the Bronx Valley Parkway, which extends along its entire western boundary. It has 6 acres in Hartley Park, and 8 acres in the High School playgrounds and athletic field.

On the west side of the Bronx River, Yonkers has 264 acres of the Bronx Valley Parkway, all of which are accessible to the people of Mount Vernon.

This Parkway extends for fifteen miles, two to the south to Bronx Park, with its 684 acres, and twelve miles to the north to Lake Kensico Park with its 4,000 acres.

In Bronx Park are the Botanical and Zoological Gardens, the finest in the world.

To the southeast of Mount Vernon, and adjoining it, is Pelham Bay Park, with its 1,762 acres and twelve miles of water front. There is not another park in the world with such a water front, and very few of a greater area. The bathing, boating and fishing facilities of this great park are open to the people of Mount Vernon. The same is true of the golf links, tennis courts, baseball grounds and the like of Pelham Bay Park and Van Courtlandt Park.

Not only is Mount Vernon surrounded by parks, but a large part of the city is made up of residential parks. Nearly one half of the area of Mount Vernon is restricted to residential purposes. The result is that each of these restricted areas is a beautiful park. Among these are Chester Hill, Villa Park, Primrose Park, Darwood, Oakwood, Lincoln Manor, Chester Heights, Corcoran Manor, Langdon Terrace, Oakley Manor, Vernon Heights, Chester Hill

Park, Aubyn Manor and others. Many of the residential streets in the former villages of Mount Vernon, Central Mount Vernon, West Mount Vernon and East Mount Vernon are equally beautiful, with fine macadamized roads, lined with thousands of splendid shade trees and flanked with well-kept lawns.

THE BUILDING DEPARTMENT.

The following is a comparison of the new buildings, additions and alterations made in the year 1914:

	Mount Vernon	Yonkers	New Rochelle
New Buildings	156	299	151
Additions and Alterations.....	172	89	100
Totals.....	328	388	251
Value of same.....	\$766,472	\$1,401,500	\$617,673
Value per square mile.....	174,199	77,948	58,436

Thus the amount expended per square mile in 1914 was three times as much in Mount Vernon as in New Rochelle, and $2\frac{1}{4}$ times as much as in Yonkers.

For the past ten years (1905 to 1914 inclusive) the number of new buildings erected in the City of Mount Vernon was 2,199 and the number of alterations and additions was 1,636, making a total of 3,835, the value of which was \$15,250,373 an average of \$1,525, 037.30 a year.

During the first six months of this year (1915) there has been a marked increase over 1914 in the building of houses in Mount Vernon. During the past six months plans have been filed with the Building Inspector for 135 new buildings and 113 alterations and additions, making a total of 248 against 328 for the whole of 1914.

The value of the new buildings, alterations and additions during the first six months of 1915 is \$532,121 against \$766,472 for the whole of 1914.

It is impossible to make a comparison of the building activities in Mount Vernon with those of New Rochelle and Yonkers for the past ten years, as the records in the office of the Building Inspector in Yonkers run back for only five years, and in New Rochelle for only three, while those in Mount Vernon run back for eight years.

Nevertheless the figures are interesting and instructive as far as they go, and compare as follows:

Mount Vernon.

	New Buildings and Additions	Cost of Same	Cost Per Square Mile
1914	328	\$ 766,472	\$ 182,059
1913	389	1,042,705	247,673
1912	384	1,661,565	394,671
	<hr/> 1,101	<hr/> \$ 3,470,742	<hr/> \$ 824,404
1911	435	1,434,476	340,730
1910	447	1,710,721	406,275
	<hr/> 1,983	<hr/> \$ 6,843,151	<hr/> \$ 1,625,451

Yonkers.

1914	388	\$ 1,401,500	\$ 77,948
1913	659	4,262,800	236,822
1912	538	3,757,600	208,755
1911	545	2,920,600	162,255
1910	721	3,571,805	198,433
	<hr/> 2,463	<hr/> \$15,914,305	<hr/> \$ 885,111

New Rochelle.

1914	251	\$ 617,673	\$ 58,436
1913	247	861,128	82,012
1912	250	1,197,698	114,066
	<hr/> 748	<hr/> \$ 2,676,499	<hr/> \$ 253,216

Thus, in the five years last past, Mount Vernon put up, altered or added to, 1,983 buildings, at a cost of \$6,843,151.

Yonkers, in the same period, put up, altered or added to, 2,463 buildings, at a cost of \$15,914,305.

As Yonkers has 17.98 square miles, and Mount Vernon only 4.21 square miles, it is not just, in comparing the two cities, to take the foregoing totals. On the contrary, the comparison should be made per square mile. On that basis the comparison for the past five years stands thus:

Per Square Mile of Area.

	Mount Vernon	Yonkers
New Buildings, Additions, etc.....	450.7	137.0
Value of Same.....	\$1,555,262	\$885,111

For the past three years New Rochelle compares with Mount Vernon per square mile as follows:

	Mount Vernon	New Rochelle
New Buildings, Additions, etc.....	250.0	70.8
Value of Same.....	\$ 788,805	\$253,216

Hence, per square mile Mount Vernon has, in the past five years, spent almost twice as much on buildings as Yonkers, and in the past three years, over three times as much as New Rochelle.

RAILWAY FACILITIES.

The upper section of the Subway Extension on White Plains Avenue is built. It runs from 241st Street to Burke Avenue in Williamsbridge, about 1,000 feet south of 210th Street or Gun Hill Road, which is the main avenue running east and west, in that part of the Borough of the Bronx.

This section of the Subway connects at Burke Avenue, with the other section which is to run to 177th Street, and there connect with the Subway which is now running from the Battery and Flatbush Avenue in Brooklyn to Bronx Park. Less than half a mile of this extension is not yet built, but the work is progressing rapidly, and the whole line will be in operation in a few months.

All the trolley lines in Mount Vernon will run to the 241st Street terminal, so that one will be able to travel from any part of our city to the Battery or to Flatbush Avenue, in Brooklyn, for ten cents.

There will be only one station for the express trains between 241st Street and the existing terminus of the Subway at 177th Street. That will be at Williamsbridge. We shall make as good time between Mount Vernon and 177th Street as we now make on the New Haven Railroad, and what we shall lose in time at the stops between 177th Street and 42nd Street will be no greater than the time we now lose in getting off a train, then walking through the Grand Central Terminal and then getting on a Subway train.

We now have 336 trains a day between Mount Vernon and New York City. Of these 55 are on the New Haven Road, 74 on the Harlem, and 207 on the Westchester.

In the mornings from 7 to 9 o'clock the trains to New York on the New Haven Road run at intervals from six to twenty-two minutes, and on the Harlem Road, from four to twenty-four minutes.

On the Westchester Road the trains run regularly for 18 hours in the day at intervals of twenty minutes from 6 A. M. until midnight, with an all night service from midnight until 6 A. M. at intervals of less than an hour.

Although the road has been in operation only three years and is only twenty-two miles long, it is carrying more suburban passengers than either the New Haven, the Harlem or the Hudson River Division of the New York Central.

It is suffering at present from the lack of a close connection with the Subway at 180th Street. This it will have in a few months,

as the two roads will be less than a hundred feet apart at 180th Street, as soon as the Subway extension to 241st Street is built.

It takes only nine minutes to go by an express train from the East Third Street Station to 180th Street, and it takes only 44 minutes to go from that point to the Battery by a Subway express.

Thus allowing five minutes for the transfer at 180th Street, it will take less than an hour to go from the East Third Street Station to the Battery, every twenty minutes in the day, for a single fare of fifteen cents.

When the Subway Extension on White Plains Avenue will be in operation—only a few months hence—it will take only 53 minutes to ride from 241st Street to the Battery, every ten minutes in the day for a fare of five cents.

The new double-decked, four track bridge over the Harlem River for the Second and Third Avenue Elevated Railroads has just been completed, and the third tracking of these roads for express trains is almost finished.

The Second Avenue Elevated Railroad trains now run only to 129th Street. They do not cross the Harlem River. Very soon they will cross the river, and run up to 200th Street and Webster Avenue. The Elevated Railroad will soon be extended up Webster Avenue from 200th to 210th Street and thence easterly along 210th Street to the Subway Extension on White Plains Avenue. Thence the elevated railway trains will run up White Plains Avenue to 241st Street on the structure already built. At that terminal we shall, in a very few months, have the privilege of going to the Battery for five cents, every five minutes in the day on the Subway trains or the Elevated Railroad trains. The express trains on the Second and Third Avenue Elevated Railroads will make as good time as the Subway trains and better time than is now made by the local trains on the Harlem Railroad.

In less than eighteen months, the Lexington Avenue Subway will be in operation, and will connect with the Westchester Railroad at Hunt's Point. This will be the most direct line into and through New York City and the running time from the East Third Street Station in Mount Vernon to the Battery will be less than forty minutes.

The Interborough Railway Company has purchased the Cranford Property in the northern part of the Borough of the Bronx and adjoining Mount Vernon for the storage of its cars.

Some time ago plans were prepared for a Grand Central Terminal at 149th Street and Fourth Avenue for the New York Central.

It is probable that these plans will be taken up before long and the station built.

The Subway passes under the tracks of the Harlem Road at 149th Street and are very near the surface.

When this new station will have been built, a direct connection will be made at 149th Street so that those passengers who wish to take the Subway at that point can do so. From 149th Street to Mount Vernon is about five miles and the single fare would be ten cents or less.

We now have eight stations on the three trunk lines running through our city, and we shall have another very soon at Grand Street on the Harlem Road.

With all the other advantages our city possesses, its prospects in the near future are magnificent.

The railroad facilities of Mount Vernon are greater today, than those of any other city in the United States having a population of less than 250,000.

In addition to the three trunk lines, the two Subway Roads and the two Elevated Roads I have referred to, there are ten trolley lines in Mount Vernon, three of which run to New York City and connect with the Subway or Elevated Railroad.

One of these ten lines runs to White Plains, another to New Rochelle, another to Tuckahoe, two to Pelham, and another to Yonkers.

These ten lines carry millions of passengers a year and are the means of enabling hundreds of thousands of people to realize what a beautiful city of homes Mount Vernon is.

In a few months, the Harlem Railroad will run over its new road bed in West Mount Vernon and thus two dangerous grade crossings will be removed. Passengers on the Yonkers trolley line will then go from the heart of Mount Vernon to the Hudson River in Yonkers without a change of cars. This line is now being double tracked. When that is done, the running time will be shortened by several minutes.

The New York Central is about to give out a contract for building a new station at West Mount Vernon which is to cost \$150,000, and it will soon begin the building of a new station at Grand Street.

At this point a beautiful concrete bridge is to be erected immediately over the Bronx River and the Bronx Parkway. It will in the near future become one of the most important highways between Mount Vernon and Yonkers.

In this connection the beautiful bridge over the Bronx River at the terminus of Mount Vernon Avenue should be mentioned. It is one of the ornamental structures of the City.

EDUCATION.

Every one seeking a home is vitally interested in the educational facilities which are furnished.

In this respect the City of Mount Vernon makes a splendid showing.

There are twenty-five cities in the State of New York, each of which has a population of more than 20,000. Mount Vernon is the twelfth on the list, with a population of 37,623.

Of this population, there is an average daily attendance in our public schools of 6,348 or 1,648 out of every 10,000 inhabitants.

In this regard Mount Vernon outranks every city in the State, having a population of more than 20,000. New Rochelle is a close second, Yonkers is fifth and New York City is eleventh.

The following table shows the standing of each city therein:

Average Attendance and Population in 1914 in Cities of More Than 20,000 Inhabitants.

	Population	Average Daily Attendance	Ditto Per 10,000 Inhabitants
1. Mount Vernon	37,623	6,348	1,687
2. New Rochelle	31,754	5,113	1,610
3. Watertown	26,909	4,189	1,556
4. Jamestown	37,839	5,043	1,333
5. Yonkers	90,502	12,021	1,327
6. Newburgh	27,645	3,660	1,324
7. Schenectady	80,384	10,217	1,271
8. Gloversville	21,177	2,663	1,257
9. Kingston	26,546	3,299	1,243
10. New York City	5,066,222	627,118	1,233
11. Poughkeepsie	32,080	3,614	1,127
12. Binghamton	55,905	6,115	1,094
13. Syracuse	146,583	15,463	1,055
14. Utica	82,434	8,827	1,071
15. Oswego	25,428	2,635	1,036
16. Buffalo	454,112	46,799	1,036
17. Elmira	39,847	4,117	1,033
18. Niagara Falls	42,097	4,282	1,017
19. Auburn	34,178	3,303	966
20. Albany	109,279	9,904	906
21. Amsterdam	34,317	3,001	875
22. Rome	23,868	2,074	869
23. Rochester	245,077	20,838	851
24. Troy	74,009	5,262	711
25. Cohoes	23,408	1,525	651

Mount Vernon has a teaching force of 237, including Principals and Teachers under the direction of an able Superintendent.

It has also a thorough medical inspection department in charge of four physicians and four school nurses.

It also has dental clinic in which children who would otherwise be neglected, have their teeth treated free of charge.

It also has a department of physical education for both boys and girls in charge of highly efficient professional directors.

They have charge not only of the physical exercises in the schools and gymnasium, but also on the athletic fields and summer play-grounds.

It also has school gardens carried on under the supervision of a skilled director.

It also has a visiting teacher who works to bring the school and the home closer together. New York City and Rochester are the only other cities in the State of New York which employ such a teacher.

Mount Vernon also has ten Home and School Associations in which the parents and teachers meet and work together for the good of the school children.

In addition thereto there is a central Council of the Home and School Associations, consisting of the officers of the several local associations, the school principals and the superintendent of instruction, acting as a co-ordinating body to bring the schools and the Home and School Associations into a working harmony.

I regard this bringing together of the parents, the superintendents, the principals and the teachers as a very valuable part of our school system. They not only become acquainted with each other, but they are enabled to work together, the parents learning what the teachers are striving to accomplish, and the teachers learning the difficulties under which the parents and children labor at home.

The visiting teacher in this connection forms a very important link in the chain.

The Mount Vernon Public Schools also, provide for individual instruction for needy and backward pupils, and adjustment classes for those who are slow in mastering some studies, while quick and apt in others.

The theory on which our Public Schools are conducted is not to fit the child to a hard and fast system, but to adapt the system, as much as possible to the needs and development of the child.

The recent establishment of an Intermediate or Junior High School for the pupils in the seventh and eighth grades, is another

one of the distinctive and admirable features of our Public School system.

In this school the work is adapted to the vocational needs of the pupils. Those who have little aptitude for the bookwork of the ordinary classes but evince a skill in mechanical work are encouraged to develop the latter and given instruction therein.

Mount Vernon is especially proud of its evening schools. These are of three kinds, the Elementary, where those who wish to learn our language and the rudiments of an education are taught; the Commercial, where typewriting, stenography, commercial arithmetic and other advanced studies are taught; and the Industrial Arts School, in which mechanics and others who desire to learn architectural drawing, mechanical drawing, printing, wood-working and other branches of mechanical labor have an opportunity to do so, and thus fit themselves to be superintendents, foremen, master-mechanics and contractors.

These are only some of the distinctive features of our Public School System. They are enough, however, to show why the Public Schools of Mount Vernon are the first in the whole state.

HIGH SCHOOLS.

Mount Vernon has three high schools, and one intermediate high school.

Yonkers has three high schools and New Rochelle one.

In average daily attendance in the High Schools, per 10,000 of population, Mount Vernon is first in all the cities of the State having more than 20,000 inhabitants. Oswego is second, Watertown is third, Poughkeepsie is fourth, Elmira is fifth and New Rochelle is sixth, as shown in the following table:

Comparison Per 10,000 of Inhabitants for the Year 1914-1915.

	Average Daily Attendance	Number of Graduates	Entering Colleges or Professional Schools
1. Mount Vernon	239	29.2	16.5
2. Oswego	231	23.6	10.0
3. Watertown	209	28.6	9.4
4. Poughkeepsie	206	18.4	8.0
5. Elmira	205	23.3	12.1
6. New Rochelle	202	22.0	9.2
7. Gloversville	192	23.1	6.9
8. Jamestown	188	28.8	7.6
9. Auburn	163	20.4	5.9

	Average Daily Attendance	Number of Graduates	Entering Colleges or Professional Schools
10. Newburgh	159	20.6	6.9
11. Rome	149	14.3	6.4
12. Syracuse	148	18.9	13.2
13. Kingston	139	11.3	9.3
14. Yonkers	135	15.7	7.8
15. Niagara Falls	134	13.6	5.9
16. Binghamton	127	17.4	6.6
17. Schenectady	114	14.8	10.3
18. Utica	121	16.6	6.1
19. Albany	107	16.3	6.4
20. Rochester	82	12.5	7.5
21. Amsterdam	92	9.6	3.8
22. Troy	80	8.5	2.9
23. New York	76	8.6	4.3
24. Buffalo	82	11.8	4.6
25. Cohoes	72	4.8	0.0

The total number of the graduates this year from the Mount Vernon High School was 164, of whom 54 took the two year course in the Commercial High School.

The average daily attendance in the High Schools of Mount Vernon, New Rochelle and Yonkers for 1914-1915 was as follows:

	Total	Per 10,000 of Population
Mount Vernon	894	239
New Rochelle	642	202
Yonkers	1,218	135

Thus the average attendance in the Mount Vernon High School per 10,000 of inhabitants, is 1 1-5 times that in New Rochelle, and 1 4-5 times that in Yonkers.

Twice a year, the students in the High School and Academies of the State are examined by the examiners employed by the Regents of the State University. In some High Schools and Academies no student is permitted to take the Regents' Examination, who has not passed a preliminary examination conducted by the High School teachers. In this way, the doubtful ones are eliminated. In Mount Vernon there is no such preliminary test or weeding out. Nevertheless, Mount Vernon ranks third of all the cities in the State having a population of more than 20,000 each, as shown in the following table:

	Percentage of Perfection
1. Watertown	92.6
2. Yonkers	87.4
3. Mount Vernon	83.6
4. New Rochelle	81.7
5. New York (95.1 to 70.7)	81.5
6. Amsterdam	80.1
7. Kingston	78.2
8. Elmira	77.5
9. Auburn	76.5
10. Troy	75.7
11. Utica	75.4
12. Newburgh	73.7
13. Syracuse	73.6
14. Jamestown	73.4
15. Rochester	73.2
16. Poughkeepsie	72.2
17. Buffalo	72.1
18. Gloversville	70.9
19. Schenectady	68.1
20. Niagara Falls	67.8
21. Binghamton	66.3
22. Rome	64.1
23. Oswego	63.3
24. Albany	55.6

Five facts speak volumes for the intelligence and public spirit of the people of Mount Vernon, New Rochelle and Yonkers, and for the excellence of their public school system:

First. In the Average Daily Attendance in their public schools Mount Vernon stands first among all the cities of the State, having more than 20,000 inhabitants, New Rochelle second and Yonkers fifth.

Second. In the Average Daily Attendance in the High Schools, Mount Vernon is first, New Rochelle is sixth and Yonkers is sixteenth.

Third. In the number of graduates last year from the High Schools in the cities referred to above, Mount Vernon is first, New Rochelle sixth and Yonkers is eighteenth.

Fourth. In the number of these graduates who are about to enter colleges and professional schools, Mount Vernon is first, New Rochelle is sixth and Yonkers is eleventh.

Fifth. In the Regents' Examination last year, Yonkers is second, Mount Vernon is third and New Rochelle is fourth.

Although Watertown excelled Mount Vernon in the Regents' Examination last year, we sent, out of every 10,000 inhabitants, 16.5 to colleges and professional schools, while Watertown sent only 8.7 and New York City only 3.7.

The Mount Vernon High School was organized in September 1894 with three teachers and 74 pupils. The Academic Department moved into its new High School on Gramatan Avenue in September, 1914 with 36 teachers and 859 students.

The first graduating class received their diplomas in June, 1896 and numbered ten. The Class of 1915, which graduated last June, numbered 108.

During the twenty-one years of its existence, the Mount Vernon High School has had on its rolls 1837 boys and 2153 girls, an aggregate of 3,990.

The total number of graduates to date is 1,025 of whom 405 are boys and 620 girls.

The graduating classes from 1904 to 1914 inclusive numbered 708 members, of whom 520, more than 73 per cent. entered colleges and other institutions for the higher or professional education. These numbers do not include students matriculating in business colleges or schools of music.

Many graduates of the Mount Vernon High School have achieved distinction in the professional and business world. They comprise lawyers, doctors, teachers, clergymen, bankers and superintendents, and are represented in many other callings of distinction. Some of them have served on the Bench, in the Legislature and in other high offices in the gift of the people.

In addition to the semi-annual Regents' Examination, the University of the State of New York conducts examinations for Certificates of College Entrance. Those High School students who, in their four years course, attain a certain high standing in the Regents' Examinations are awarded these Certificates. There were 155 of them given this year in Westchester County. Of these the graduates of the Mount Vernon High School received 51—practically one third. As the population of Westchester County is about 325,000, the City of Mount Vernon with its 37,623 inhabitants has about 11.5 per cent. of the whole number.

Mount Vernon's pro rata share of the College Entrance Certificates would be less than 18, yet we won 51.

The Regents of the University of the State of New York give twenty scholarships every year to the High School Graduates in the whole County of Westchester, who stand at the head of the list of those given College Entrance Certificates. This year the Mount Vernon High School graduates won 7 of these scholarships, those

from the Yonkers High School won 6, those from the New Rochelle High School won 2. Ossining won 3, White Plains 1 and North Tarrytown 1.

Thus Mount Vernon with $11\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. of the population of Westchester County takes 33 per cent. of the College Entrance Certificates and 35 per cent. of the Scholarships awarded by the University of the State.

The graduates of the Mount Vernon High School have won in open competition, 23 scholarships in Cornell University, 4 appointments to the West Point Military Academy and 2 to the Naval Academy at Annapolis. They have also won a number of scholarships in the New York University.

From its inception, the Mount Vernon High School has had for its Principal, Prof. A. B. Davis, and to him, in a large degree is to be credited the magnificent growth and the splendid record of the crowning glory of our educational system.

HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETICS.

In athletics as well as in scholarships, the Mount Vernon High School stands first in Westchester County, and holds its own with the High Schools of New York City.

In 1902 the Westchester Interscholastic Athletic Association was organized. There are six High Schools in it, to wit: those of Mount Vernon, Yonkers, New Rochelle, White Plains, Portchester and Mamaroneck. Since its organization, the Mount Vernon High School has won the following championships:

Track and Field Events in 1903, 1907, 1908, 1910, 1913 and 1915—six times.

Basketball in 1903, 1907, 1908, 1909, 1910, 1911, 1912 and 1915—eight times.

Football in 1908 and 1911 and a tie with New Rochelle in 1913.

Baseball in 1908 and 1910.

Tennis in 1914 and 1915.

Cross Country Run in 1915.

In 1907 we won 2 Championships.

" 1908	"	"	4	"
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" 1909	"	"	1	"
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" 1910	"	"	3	"
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" 1911	"	"	2	"
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" 1912	"	"	1	"
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" 1913	"	"	$1\frac{1}{2}$	"
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" 1914	"	"	1	"
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" 1915	"	"	4	"
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In this record our triumphs in the Track and Field Events have been counted as only one championship in each year.

In 1912 one of our High School Graduates who entered Columbia University, H. S. Babcock, won the Olympic Championship at the International Games in Stockholm, and was the Intercollegiate Champion of the United States, in the pole vault.

Harold Phipps was the manager of the Columbia Varsity wrestlers in 1913 and Vincent Jones in 1914.

In one year, High School students won the County Championship in Football, Baseball, Track Events and Basketball, defeating in the latter, the Interscholastic Champions of New York City.

During the past two years, our High School students have won the championship in Tennis. Herbert L. Bowman, who has just graduated has been the champion not only in the Westchester County Interscholastic Athletic Association, but in Westchester County at large.

In Football and Baseball our High School students have not won as many championships as in the Track Events, and Basketball, because they have not had a suitable athletic field; but as they will have one ready next year, there is no doubt, they will excel in these athletic sports as well as in the others.

There are about thirty graduates of the Mount Vernon High School who are now students in Columbia University. Of these at least one has been on every Freshman Crew which has competed in the annual regattas at Poughkeepsie since 1911. One of them, Oscar B. Myers, the son of Dr. S. Oscar Myers, was the stroke oar of the Junior Varsity Crew in 1914 and 1915, as well as a member of the Freshman Crew in 1913. Irving W. Hadsell was the Captain of the Columbia Varsity Crew which won the championship at the Poughkeepsie Regatta in 1914, and rowed number seven in the boat. He was also in the Freshman Crew in 1911. Harry Bird was the Coxswain of that crew. Herbert M. Tichborne was on the Freshman Crew in 1914 and on the Varsity Crew in 1915. Charles W. Cronenberg was on the Freshman Crew in 1912, the Varsity Four in 1913, and the Junior Varsity in 1914 and 1915.

When we consider that there are over 13,000 students in Columbia University from all parts of the world, the High School of Mount Vernon has just cause to be proud, and the citizens of Mount Vernon have just cause to be proud that in the championship crews of Columbia our High School has been represented every year from 1911 to 1915 inclusive, by one or more representatives, having in 1914 the Captain of the Varsity Champion Eight and three of the Junior Varsity Eight. There is not another High School or Preparatory School in the United States which can equal this record.

PLAYGROUNDS AND SCHOOL GARDENS.

Mount Vernon has seven playgrounds and four school gardens, which were open to the children during the past summer. They were maintained under the auspices of the Board of Education and the Playground Commission appointed by me. Instructors or leaders were in charge of these grounds and gardens. They combine work and play, instructing the children in several kinds of hand-work, such as making of mats, kites, hammocks, hand-bags, doilies and small picture frames. The children are also instructed in folk dances, singing-games and baseball.

Although the High School Athletic Field has not yet been developed, it has been used as a baseball field during the past summer. A Junior and Senior Baseball League comprising eleven school teams has been organized. On this field, four field and track meets open to all boys in Mount Vernon were held this past summer, and each one was a great success.

A large number of boys in the higher grades of the Grammar Schools availed themselves of the use of the apparatus in the Gymnasium of the High School during the summer, under a competent instructor.

In the four school gardens about 200 boys and girls took advantage last summer to learn how to care for and cultivate flowers and vegetables.

The total attendance at the playgrounds was 41,930—an average of 940 a day.

At the school gardens, the average daily attendance was 185.

In his report to the Board of Education, the Superintendent of Instruction, Dr. William H. Holmes says:

"The \$1,000 voted by the Board of Aldermen and expended "under the direction of the Playground Commission made it possible to establish the four playgrounds at Hartley Park, the High School, South Seventh Avenue and South Thirteenth Avenue "which gave supervised play and enjoyment, as well as a large "amount of profitable occupation in the way of handwork, to an "average of 940 a day.

"This good work on the part of the Board and the City should "be continued and extended the coming year. No one can estimate "the benefit which comes from having so large a number of children "and youth of the City engaged in properly supervised play during "the summer vacation."

The total cost of carrying on the seven playgrounds and the four school gardens was about \$2,532—a little over 5 cents a day for each child.

I think that we have done more than any other city in the

State of New York, in solving the problem what to do during the summer vacation with the children who are compelled to stay at home. I believe they get as much enjoyment, instruction and outdoor exercise as many of those who go into camps or spend their vacation in the mountains or at the seashore.

Physical Training lessons are given during the year in all the Grammar Schools and the first year of the High Schools under competent instructors for both boys and girls.

Outdoor sports are also provided in season, such as field hockey, tennis, baseball and football, track and field events.

The attention given in the Mount Vernon Schools to the physical condition of the children and to their physical development has much to do with the health record of the city and with the splendid results they have achieved in their studies.

THE COMMERCIAL HIGH SCHOOL.

This branch of our school system was created fifteen years ago, and the results achieved by it have been phenomenal.

It now has 358 students, and about 40 per cent. of the graduates of the Grammar Schools enter it.

The full course of study covers four years, embracing stenography, typewriting, bookkeeping, commercial geography, commercial arithmetic, banking and almost every branch of instruction to fit a young man or woman for business.

It also has a two year course especially adapted to those who desire to become stenographers, typewriters and bookkeepers.

But this is not all. Our Commercial High School is not merely a "Business College." It is a High School in which a liberal education is given in English Literature, Mathematics, History, Biology, Physics and German.

This year it had 54 graduates.

Last year the number was 44, and every one obtained a position in a very short time. The total number of graduates is about 460, and the total number of students who have profited by the instruction given in the school, sufficiently to earn their living as stenographers, typewriters, bookkeepers, salesmen, accountants and the like is over 900. They earn, in the aggregate, over \$750,000 a year.

The cost of the school is between \$16,000 and \$17,000 a year.

It is one of the most profitable investments the City of Mount Vernon ever made.

Many of its students have taken up advanced work in other educational institutions. Among these, two are teachers, one a surveyor, three lawyers, two doctors, two state engineers and one an architect.

Many of them have established themselves in business.

For five years there were annual contests in typewriting and stenography, in which all the commercial schools of the county competed. The Mount Vernon Commercial High School won every contest, and for three years past has not had a challenger or competitor.

Last year it entered the competition in New York City in typewriting for students from the Suburban Day High Schools.

The first prize, a gold medal, was awarded to Daniel Stubing, a pupil in our Commercial High School, who won with a net rate of 88 words per minute.

The second prize, a silver medal, was won by Charles E. Kuhn, a pupil in our Commercial High School, who won with a net rate of 71 words per minute.

There was also a contest for Novices, who had not written for a record in any previous contest. This was open to any and all in New York City and its suburbs. One of the pupils in the Mount Vernon Commercial High School took the third prize.

From its commencement, the school has had for its Principal, Mr. Clyde O. Thompson, and to him is due very much of the credit the Commercial High School of Mount Vernon has earned.

SCHOOL OF THE INDUSTRIAL ARTS.

The City of Mount Vernon seeks to give every boy and girl in its limits a Grammar School Education. Of the graduates from the Grammar Schools, some enter the Academic High School, some the Commercial High School and some the High School of the Industrial Arts.

The last named is only four years old, and is as yet in a formative state; but our Board of Education is evolving a course of study in it which will make it one of the best features in our High School System.

During the past four years 2750 students have been registered in the day and evening classes, mostly the latter. A large number of the young mechanics in our city avail themselves of the opportunities this school affords at night, to fit themselves to become superintendents, foremen and master-mechanics, and to enter into business for themselves.

For the girls there are classes in cooking, millinery and dress-making. For the boys there are classes in electrical work, wood-working, metal-working, the use of the lathe and printing. Mechanical and Architectural Drawing receive special attention.

The object of this High School is not merely to make mechanics but to fit the students for directive work, that is to enable them to

be superintendents, foremen and master-mechanics; to give them such knowledge of mathematics, chemistry, physics and drawing, as will enable them to be masters of the work in which they are engaged. It will take some time to adapt this school to the needs of the community and its surroundings, but I believe it will, before long, become one of the most important features of our Educational System.

THE PUBLIC LIBRARY.

The University of the State of New York issues quarterly a magazine entitled New York Libraries. In the number of November, 1912, the editor says:

"The Public Library of Mount Vernon has the distinction of "circulating more books than any other library in the State belonging to cities of between 25,000 and 35,000 population."

In the number of November, 1913, the editor said:

"The Mount Vernon Library reports, for the past year, 157,474 "volumes issued for home reading, the largest figure reported by "any library system operating in a city of a similar size. The "issue to children numbered 37,338 volumes, of which nearly 50 "per cent. was non-fiction."

The comparison with New Rochelle and Yonkers for 1914 is as follows:

	Mount Vernon	New Rochelle	Yonkers
Books in Library.....	31,378	33,378	32,655
Issued for Home Use.....	185,878	118,973	208,161
Issued per 1,000 of			
Population	4,928	3,747	2,274

Thus the number issued out of the Public Library of Mount Vernon is almost 57 per cent. greater per 1,000 inhabitants than in New Rochelle and 116 per cent. greater than in Yonkers. In other words, the number taken out in Mount Vernon is 1 1-3 times greater than in New Rochelle and 2 1-8 times greater than in Yonkers.

The New Rochelle Public Library ranks next to ours in the number of books issued. Of the other cities of the state the next ten are in the following list:

	Circulation Per 1,000 of Population	Full Population
Mount Vernon	4,928	37,623
New Rochelle	3,747	31,752
Poughkeepsie	3,690	30,534
Buffalo	3,568	461,335
Binghamton	3,335	55,901

	Circulation Per 1,000 of Population	Full Population
Brooklyn	2,931	1,990,614
Syracuse	2,878	152,534
Utica	2,799	83,876
Albany	2,646	103,580
Schenectady	2,373	95,265
Yonkers	2,274	91,543
Rochester	1,451	250,747
Troy	1,421	77,738

For this splendid showing, which places Mount Vernon far ahead of all cities in the State, our thanks are due to Messrs. Charles C. Roberts, William F. Gay, Maitland B. Sloat, William P. Brinck-erhoff and Edwin L. Ford, who constitute the Library Board, and especially to the Librarian, Miss Francis Danner Thomson and her efficient assistants.

BOARD OF ASSESSORS AND VALUATION OF REAL ESTATE.

The Board of Supervisors of Westchester County, after a careful investigation, determined last year that the assessed valuation of the real estate in the City of Mount Vernon is 80 per cent. of its full value, in the City of New Rochelle 80 per cent., and in the City of Yonkers 75½ per cent.

Thus the assessed valuation and the full valuations of the real estate in these three cities compare as follows:

	Assessed Valuation	Full Valuation	Full Valuation Per Acre
Mount Vernon	\$ 39,578,492	\$ 49,473,115	\$17,568.57
New Rochelle	40,837,281	51,046,601	7,545.91
Yonkers	114,080,686	151,100,246	13,130.93

It follows from these figures that real estate in Mount Vernon is worth almost 2 1-3 times as much per acre as it is in New Rochelle, and over 133 1-3 per cent. what it is worth in Yonkers.

Of the \$114,080,686 assessed valuation of the real estate in Yonkers, \$23,000,000 consists of the assessed value of the aqueducts of New York City. Judge Mills recently decided that the City of Yonkers has no right to assess the four aqueducts. If his decision is sustained \$15,000,000 will be taken from the assessed valuation of the real estate in Yonkers. The figures will then be as follows:

	Assessed Valuation	Full Valuation	Full Valuation Per Acre
Mount Vernon....	\$ 39,578,492	\$ 49,473,115	\$ 17,568.57
New Rochelle	40,837,281	51,046,601	7,545.91
Yonkers	99,080,686	131,232,696	11,404.37

It follows from these figures, that real estate in Mount Vernon is worth almost $2\frac{1}{2}$ times as much per acre as it is in New Rochelle, and over 154 per cent. what it is worth in Yonkers.

TAXES.

Having all these things, how much do we pay for them?

What do our schools cost us?

What does the city government cost?

First of all, out of every \$100 paid in taxes for the year ending May 1, 1916, the taxpayers in our city will pay almost exactly \$40 for education, including the Public Library, and payment of school bonds falling due and interest on all school bonds issued by the city. In New York City only \$22 out of every \$100 of taxes are spent for education; in New Rochelle only \$29.08 and in Yonkers only \$26.25. In the case of New York City the school bonds falling due and the interest on the school bonds are not included.

Here are the exact figures:

	Total Tax	Tax for Education	Raised for Education out of every \$100
Mount Vernon	\$ 986,931	\$ 392,394	\$ 39.76
New Rochelle	1,145,003	332,951	29.08
Yonkers	3,236,781	849,621	26.25
New York	159,787,337	42,449,578	22.01

Here is another way of regarding the taxes:

In Mount Vernon the total tax for all purposes, State, County, City and School is \$26.23 per capita; in New Rochelle it is \$36.06, in Yonkers \$35.76 and in New York City \$31.71.

The total taxes in New Rochelle are 37.6 per cent. higher per capita than in Mount Vernon. In Yonkers they are 35.1 per cent. higher and in New York City 20 per cent.

Here are the exact figures:

	Total Tax	Population	Total Tax Per Capita
Mount Vernon.....	\$ 986,931.22	37,623	\$ 26.23
New Rochelle	1,145,003.19	31,754	36.07
Yonkers	3,236,781.49	90,502	35.76
New York	159,787,337.00	5,006,544	31.71

This is the way the taxes in Mount Vernon are to be distributed for the year ending May 1, 1916:

	Total Tax	Per \$100 of Total Tax
Education	\$392,394.34	\$ 39.76
City Government	472,912.32	47.92
County Government	108,263.46	10.97
State Government	13,361.10	1.35
	<hr/> \$986,931.22	<hr/> \$100.00

Thus the amount expended for Education in Mount Vernon is almost as large as the total expenditure of the City Government, including Police, Fire Department, Streets, Avenues, Sewers, Health Department, Charities, Street Lighting, Rents, City Court, Corporation Counsel, Election Expenses, Interest on City Debt, Redemption of Bonds, Mayor's Office, City Clerk's Office, Common Council, and all the other branches of the City Government.

I know of no other city in the state which can equal this showing.

In this respect the following tables are very interesting and instructive :

New Rochelle.

	Total Tax	Per \$100 of Total Tax
Education	\$ 332,951.82	\$ 29.08
City Government	683,070.03	59.65
County Government	115,168.19	10.06
State Government	13,784.65	1.21
	<hr/> \$1,145,003.19	<hr/> \$100.00

Yonkers.

Education	\$ 849,621.37	\$ 26.25
City Government	1,995,814.72	61.66
County Government	349,668.94	10.80
State Government	41,676.46	1.29
	<hr/> \$3,236,781.49	<hr/> \$100.00

The State and County Taxes are beyond the control of the City Government or the Board of Education. The foregoing figures show how very much more Mount Vernon spends per capita for Education, than New Rochelle, Yonkers or New York; and they also show how very much less Mount Vernon spends for its City Government, than either New Rochelle, Yonkers or New York.

Here are the figures for the City Government taken by themselves :

	Total Tax	Tax Per Capita
Mount Vernon	\$ 472,912.32	\$12.57
New Rochelle	683,070.03	21.51
Yonkers	1,995,814.72	22.05
New York	105,727,740.53	21.12

For those who wish to go more into detail than is shown in the foregoing, the following comparison will doubtless be of interest :

Out of every \$100 received in taxes this year (1915) the expenditures will be as follows:

	Mount Vernon	New Rochelle	Yonkers
Education	\$ 39.76	\$ 29.08	\$ 26.25
County Government ..	10.97	10.06	10.80
State Government	1.35	1.21	1.29
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
City Government	52.08	\$ 40.35	\$ 38.34
	47.92	59.65	61.66
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00

The amount appropriated for the several branches of the City Government for 1915 are as follows:

	Mount Vernon	New Rochelle	Yonkers
Mayor's Office	\$ 7,050.00	\$ 4,942.01	\$ 11,900.00
Board of Estimate		282.54	900.00
Board of Contract and Supplies			2,353.00
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$ 7,050.00	\$ 5,224.55	\$ 15,153.00
Office of City Clerk....	\$ 5,960.00	\$ 9,909.21	\$ 12,890.00
Office of Comptroller..	4,800.00	7,450.34	20,644.50
Office of City Treas...	1,500.00	3,693.68	14,545.90
Office of Receiver of Taxes	3,650.00	4,577.06	6,200.00
Office of Clerk of Arrears	2,000.00		2,000.00
Contingent Fund and Sundries	4,304.08	30,223.27	
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$ 22,214.08	\$ 55,853.56	\$ 56,280.40
Common Council	\$ 5,620.00	\$ 4,852.96	\$ 27,050.00
Board of Assessors....	5,600.00	6,329.80	17,567.00
Civil Service Com....	2,000.00	2,086.39	3,625.00
City Court	12,100.00	4,754.71	22,987.50
Law Department	10,950.00	5,584.24	13,460.00
Election Expenses	14,000.00	9,997.90	27,472.00
Rent and Maintenance of Public Buildings ..	8,780.00		19,730.00
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$ 59,050.00	\$ 33,606.00	\$131,891.00

	Mount Vernon	New Rochelle	Yonkers
Office of Building			
Inspector	\$ 3,277.60	\$ 1,674.38	\$ 4,090.00
Office of Plumbing			
Inspector	3,245.00		
Office of City			
Electrician	1,850.00		
Board of Examining			
Engineers	240.00		2,135.00
Examining Board of			
Plumbers			225.00
Pounds and Pound			
Master	1,270.00		2,437.00
Weights and Measures	500.00	708.94	4,265.00
Gateman at Putnam St.	1,014.70		
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$ 11,397.30	\$ 2,383.32	\$ 13,152.00
Police Department	\$ 80,000.00	\$ 61,766.84	\$291,609.86
Fire Department	40,000.00	45,933.03	189,458.45
Dept. of Public Safety..			9,256.00
Bureau of Combustibles			3,363.00
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$120,000.00	\$ 97,699.87	\$493,687.31
Department of Public			
Works	\$ 79,200.00	\$111,821.71	\$222,586.74
Street Lighting.....	44,000.00	55,117.34	165,479.17
Ashes and Garbage....	14,000.00	18,500.00	104,857.20
Sewage Disposal	7,800.00	5,888.21	
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$145,000.00	\$191,327.26	\$492,923.11
Health Department ...	\$ 8,480.00	\$ 8,608.43	\$ 42,091.00
Dept. of Charities	9,420.00	9,071.51	22,735.00
Hospitals and			
Nurseries	8,000.00	7,114.00	105,258.00
Parks and Playgrounds	750.00	12,017.28	26,216.00
Concerts and			
Celebrations	650.00		2,050.00
Public Baths			9,978.00
Pavilion and Dock.....			4,830.00
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$ 27,300.00	\$ 36,811.22	\$213,158.00

	Mount Vernon	New Rochelle	Yonkers
Water for Fire			
Hydrants		\$ 15,109.45	\$ 34,320.00
Water Rents for			
City Property			2,294.28
Fire Insurance			
Sinking Fund			5,000.00
Judgments and			
Settlements	4,025.94	5,054.40	
	<hr/> \$ 4,025.94	<hr/> \$ 20,163.85	<hr/> \$ 41,614.28
To Pay Bonds	\$ 20,000.00	\$140,000.00	\$459,435.54
Interest on Bonds	64,800.00	100,028.93	314,623.23
For Sinking Fund	33,075.00		
	<hr/> \$117,875.00	<hr/> \$240,028.93	<hr/> \$774,058.77
Grand Total	\$513,910.99	\$683,098.56	\$2,231,919.37
Estimated Revenue ...	41,000.00		236,104.65
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Amount to be Raised			
by Tax	\$472,912.32	\$683,098.56	\$1,995,814.72
Public School	\$334,405.85	\$256,779.00	\$669,071.85
School Bonds Due	5,000.00	34,000.00	75,990.00
Interest on Bonds	38,425.50	30,000.00	87,854.52
Public Library	14,500.00	12,172.82	16,705.00
	<hr/> \$392,394.34	<hr/> \$332,951.82	<hr/> \$849,621.37
State Tax	\$ 13,361.18	\$ 13,784.62	\$ 41,676.46
County Tax	93,938.81	97,668.19	293,017.59
County Tax for Poor ..	14,324.65	17,500.00	56,651.35
	<hr/> \$121,624.64	<hr/> \$128,952.81	<hr/> \$391,345.40
Total Tax for State, County, City Schools and Public Library ..	\$986,931.22	\$1,145,003.19	\$3,236,781.49

CONCLUSION.

If efficiency is to be measured by economy of cost as well as by the results achieved, Mount Vernon has certainly no reason to be dissatisfied for the manner in which her municipal affairs are being administered.

The facts presented above prove convincingly that ours is a pretty good city to be living in and raising one's children in. It can be made even better than it is if the people will only take the trouble to inform themselves as to real conditions. Co-operation is needed to promote municipal betterment, and that depends upon a clear understanding of facts; upon municipal intelligence, in other words.

Public Officials when facing a perplexing problem often say: "I shall be guided by public opinion." How can we expect intelligent counsel unless the citizens possess an understanding of the situation sufficient to help them to know the real forces making for or against the well-being of the people of Mount Vernon? Many a good project has been lost or unnecessarily delayed by prevailing ignorance of municipal affairs. Irresponsible criticism and "knocking" would soon disappear and give way to constructive co-operation, once our people knew their city.

Mount Vernon is really a business corporation, with a capital stock of \$39,635.792. You are a share holder in this corporation. Know your City!

Respectfully submitted.

EDWIN W. FISKE.

Mayor.

Honorable Edwin W. Fiske,
Mayor of the City of Mount Vernon.

Dear Sir:—

At your request we have carefully examined the figures given in the foregoing message to the Common Council and find them to be correct.

They place Mount Vernon so far in advance, not only of its neighbors but of all the other cities in the State of New York, that we deem it best not only to verify the figures, but to state the authorities and sources upon which we have relied.

1. For the populations of the cities of the State of New York, we have relied almost wholly on the State Census which was taken last summer. In several cases, where the figures of the State Census have not been made public, we have taken the estimates of the National Board of Fire Underwriters published May 27, 1915.

2. For the population of the cities of the United States outside New York State, we have taken the estimates of the National Board of Fire Underwriters above referred to.

3. The areas of all the cities in the United States we have taken from the annual reports of the National Board of Fire Underwriters, and those of the cities in Westchester County shown in the Twentieth Annual Report of the Comptroller of the City of Mount Vernon, which has just been issued.

4. The number of deaths in each city of the State of New York, for the year 1914, we have taken from the monthly bulletin published by the State Board of Health in February, 1915.

The death rate we have determined by dividing the number of deaths in each city by its population as ascertained from the State Census or the Annual Report of the National Board of Fire Underwriters, dated May 27, 1915.

5. The comparisons in the death rate of Mount Vernon with those of the other cities of the United States, we have based on the Mortality Statistics for 1913 of the United States Census Bureau.

6. The other data in relation to the Health conditions of Mount Vernon, were verified by the Health Officer of our city.

7. The statistics in relation to losses by Fire we verified from the Annual Reports of the National Board of Fire Underwriters.

8. The statistics in relation to the Public School Systems of Mount Vernon, New Rochelle, Yonkers and the other cities of the State of New York were verified from the Annual Reports of the Mount Vernon and Yonkers Boards of Education, the Report of

the Educational Department of the State of New York for 1914, and the Report of the Commissioner of Education of the United States for 1914.

We also obtained much valuable information in verification of the facts and figures set forth in your message, from Dr. William H. Holmes, the Superintendent of the Public Schools of Mount Vernon, Prof. A. B. Davis, the Principal of the High School, Mr. Clyde O. Thompson, the Principal of the Commercial High School, Mr. Hugh H. Stewart, the Principal of the High School of the Industrial Arts, and Mr. W. H. Geer, the boys' instructor in athletics and physical development.

9. The verification of the facts and figures relating to the Public Library we obtained from Miss Frances D. Thomson, the librarian and the quarterly publications in relation to public libraries issued by the University of the State of New York, November, 1912, November, 1913, and February, 1915.

10. The verification of the figures relating to the erection, alteration and improvement of buildings in Mount Vernon, Yonkers and New Rochelle, we obtained from the Building Inspectors in each of those cities.

11. The statistics as to public streets, sewers and other matters relating to the Department of Public Works, were verified by the Commissioners of Public Works in Mount Vernon and New Rochelle and by the City Engineer of Yonkers.

12. In like manner the facts and figures relating to the Police and Fire Departments and the other branches of the city government of these three cities, were verified by officers of the same.

13. For the verification of the facts and figures set forth in your message in relation to taxes and expenditures for the Public Schools, the City Government, the County and State, we have relied on the Twentieth Annual Report of the Comptroller of Mount Vernon and the Budgets of New Rochelle and Yonkers, which have been issued within a few weeks; also upon the reports of the Comptroller of the City of New York.

14. The facts in regard to Parks, Parkways and Railroad Facilities are all matters of record set forth in the reports of the Bronx Parkway Commission, the Park Commissioner of New York City and in the records of the Public Service Commissions.

We congratulate the people of Mount Vernon on the splendid showing you make in this message.

To have the lowest death rate in the State of New York, the

lowest loss by fire, the highest average daily attendance in our Public Schools and High Schools in the State of New York and to possess all the other advantages you have set forth in your message, places Mount Vernon at the head and front of all the cities in this State and its adjoining states.

Dated September 25, 1915.

JOSEPH S. WOOD,
E. M. DAVIS,
JOHN F. FAIRCHILD.

DEATH RATE IN 1914.

Per 1,000 Population.

	Population	Deaths	Deaths Per 1,000 Population
1. Mount Vernon	37,623	392	10.42
2. New Rochelle	31,754	362	11.40
3. Jamestown	37,839	426	11.35
4. Tonawanda	8,660	102	11.82
5. North Tonawanda	13,508	162	11.94
6. Salamanca	8,341	100	11.91
7. Yonkers	90,502	1,094	12.09
8. Johnstown	10,592	132	12.43
9. Portchester	15,095	194	12.83
10. Schenectady	80,384	1,041	12.94
11. Niagara Falls	42,097	551	13.12
12. Dunkirk	17,599	234	13.21
13. Olean	17,981	249	13.94
14. Batavia	15,247	215	13.96
15. Rochester	245,077	3,505	14.33
16. Ossining	12,987	187	14.42
17. Elmira	39,847	577	14.56
18. Amsterdam	34,317	497	14.57
19. White Plains	17,487	259	14.73
20. Peekskill	17,327	255	14.74
21. New York	5,006,222	74,803	14.76
22. Oneonta	10,495	154	14.76
23. Rensselaer	11,027	163	14.81
24. Corning	13,459	203	15.12
25. Syracuse	146,583	2,205	15.14
26. Lockport	18,749	282	15.18
27. Cohoes	25,049	383	15.32
28. Watervliet	15,037	231	15.44
29. Hornell	14,304	221	15.46
30. Buffalo	454,112	7,035	15.52
31. Gloversville	21,177	331	15.63
32. Ithaca	15,489	243	15.71
33. Fulton	11,135	176	15.84
34. Auburn	34,178	553	16.21
35. Poughkeepsie	32,080	516	16.33
36. Watertown	26,899	441	16.42
37. Port Jervis	9,413	157	16.75
38. Lackawanna	19,012	322	16.91
39. Oswego	25,428	433	17.02
40. Oneida	9,472	164	17.35

	Population	Deaths	Deaths Per 1,000 Population
41. Cortland	12,390	216	17.42
42. Glens Falls	16,307	284	17.44
43. Geneva	13,232	230	17.43
44. Little Falls	13,025	230	17.67
45. Albany	109,279	1,992	18.25
46. Binghamton	55,905	1,016	18.27
47. Plattsburg	10,360	190	18.32
48. Kingston	26,546	489	18.43
49. Beacon	10,826	199	18.47
50. Saratoga Springs	14,899	259	18.53
51. Newburgh	27,596	517	18.73
52. Utica	82,434	1,548	18.81
53. Hudson	11,544	220	19.12
54. Canandaigua	7,515	146	19.43
55. Middletown	18,491	388	20.51
56. Troy	74,003	1,592	21.56
57. Rome	23,868	530	22.23
58. Ogdensburg	16,360	427	26.10

POPULATION AND AREA OF THE PRINCIPAL CITIES OF THE UNITED STATES.

1914.

	Population	Area in Square Miles	Population Per Square Mile
1. New York	5,066,544	326.00	15,541
2. Chicago	2,450,000	191.50	12,794
3. Philadelphia	1,660,000	129.50	12,819
4. St. Louis	790,000	61.33	12,881
5. Boston	750,000	47.00	12,958
6. Cleveland	660,000	51.80	12,474
7. Baltimore	600,000	31.50	19,047
8. Pittsburgh	565,000	40.67	13,892
9. Detroit	560,000	42.00	13,333
10. Buffalo	454,112	42.00	10,812
11. San Francisco	450,000	38.87	11,577
12. Milwaukee	420,000	25.72	16,329
13. Newark, N. J.....	400,000	23.50	17,021
14. Jersey City	300,000	23.00	13,043
15. Providence	245,000	18.26	13,417
16. Rochester	245,077	21.87	11,206
17. Paterson, N. J....	135,000	8.75	15,429
18. Cambridge, Mass	110,000	6.53	16,845

	Population	Area in Square Miles	Population Per Square Mile
19. Trenton, N. J.....	103,000	9.25	11,135
20. Reading, Pa	105,000	9.50	11,053
21. Camden, N. J.....	102,000	9.25	11,027
22. Lawrence, Mass. .	95,000	7.50	12,666
23. Somerville, Mass..	85,000	4.50	18,888
24. Hoboken, N. J....	75,000	1.12	66,694
25. Savannah, Ga	72,000	6.72	10,714
26. Charleston, S. C...	60,000	4.50	11,216
27. Bayonne, N. J....	65,000	4.25	15,294
28. Passaic, N. J.....	66,000	3.50	18,848
29. Mt. Vernon, N. Y.	37,653	4.21	8,944

Per square mile of area Mount Vernon exceeds in population every other city in the United States except the twenty-eight in the foregoing table.

Among those it outranks in this respect are the following:

1. Cincinnati	402,000	70.08	5,742
2. New Orleans	360,000	196.25	1,834
3. Washington, D. C.....	353,370	70.00	5,048
4. Los Angeles	450,000	121.25	3,711
5. Minneapolis	350,000	53.50	6,542
6. Kansas City, Mo.....	280,000	60.00	4,666
7. Seattle, Wash	303,000	51.92	5,836
8. Indianapolis	260,000	38.00	6,842
9. St. Paul, Minn.....	240,000	54.44	4,409
10. Denver, Col.	250,000	60.00	4,167
11. Portland, Ore.	260,000	53.46	4,863
12. Louisville	250,000	29.00	8,620
13. Richmond	165,000	26.00	6,345
14. Utica	82,434	12.00	6,869
15. Harrisburg	72,000	8.70	8,276

Also 17 other cities with population between 100,000 and 200,000 and 49 other cities with population between 50,000 and 100,000.

**POPULATION IN CITIES OF THE STATE OF
NEW YORK OF MORE THAN 25,000.**

	Census of 1910	Census of 1915	Increase In Five Years	Per Cent. of Increase
Mount Vernon ..	30,919	37,623	6,704	22.4
Yonkers	79,803	90,153	10,350	12.9
New Rochelle ...	28,867	31,754	2,887	10.0
New York ...	4,766,883	5,006,554	239,671	5.0
<hr/>				
Jamestown	31,297	37,839	6,542	20.9
Binghamton ...	48,433	55,905	7,472	16.5
Poughkeepsie ...	27,936	32,080	4,144	14.9
Rochester	218,149	245,077	26,928	12.4
Utica	74,419	82,434	8,015	10.8
Schenectady	72,826	80,384	7,558	10.4
Amsterdam	31,267	34,317	3,050	9.7
Albany	100,253	109,927	9,674	9.6
Syracuse	137,249	146,583	9,334	6.8
Buffalo	423,715	454,112	20,397	4.8
Kingston	25,908	26,546	638	2.5
Elmira	37,176	39,847	671	1.8
Watertown	26,730	26,909	179	0.7
Niagara Falls ...	30,445	42,097	11,652	38.3

The following named cities have lost in population during the past five years:

	Census of 1910	Census of 1915	Loss in Five Years	Per Cent. Loss
Troy	76,813	74,003	2,810	3.7
Auburn	34,668	34,178	490	1.5

There is only one of these cities in the State which has grown faster than Mount Vernon, that is Niagara Falls.

The growth of Mount Vernon has been more than twice that of New Rochelle and almost twice that of Yonkers.

